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(3) Initials of the Referencer

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

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| G.O. No. 762 | Press ~~Mis.~~ |
| 251 P. 255 | |
| Dated 10-3- 1869. | |

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*10th March* 1869.

No. 251. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th February 1869, No. 889 :—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pambuli, 25th January 1869, No. 42.

1. I have the honour to forward, for the consideration of the Board and Government, copy of a scheme from the Sub-Collector for improving the water-supply from the Numbyar or Tirukurungudi river.

2. I have been all over the ground myself, and can endorse all that Mr. Pennington says regarding the great waste of water in Nanguneri.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Sub-Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Shermadevi, 14th January 1869, No. 13.

1. During his late tour in the south of this district, His Excellency the Governor* expressed so much interest in the schemes for irrigating a part of that desert-like country, that I am inclined to hope that a scheme for improving the water-supply from the Numbyar (or Tirukurungudi river) might possibly *now* receive the consideration it deserves.

* NOTE.—I even heard that he had ordered a preliminary survey, but fear my information must have been incorrect, for there seems to be no probability of any thing of the kind being carried out now.

2. I have made it my business, therefore, during a pretty extensive tour in the south, to inspect every irrigation work on the river, and to make inquiries as to the supply of water available, and the extent of land capable of irrigation. The result is that I am confident an immense amount of water is wasted that might easily be saved; and that, too, in a part of the country where water is more than ordinarily precious, and the waste of it more than ordinarily culpable.

3. It is impossible to say, with any certainty, what amount of land could be brought under irrigation without a preliminary survey, and, perhaps, a scientific register to find out the amount of water available; but I have no hesitation in putting it down at *thousands* of acres.

4. If any thing is to be done, the river should be dealt with *as a whole*, and *all* the existing works should first be put in such perfect order as to ensure, so far as it is possible, the required supply to all the area now under cultivation, or entered as irrigable in the accounts.

5. Of course, a preliminary survey is indispensable, but I agree with the Officer now in charge of the Range in thinking that *all* the existing anicuts should be *heightened* and the channels widened and deepened in the *first* place. The subsidiary reservoirs should also be put in thorough repair at the same time; and *then* it would be time to consider the schemes: first, for increasing the water-supply; and secondly, for increasing the area to be irrigated.

6. As to the first, I entirely approve of the Range Officer's proposal to divert a portion of the water of the streams which flow down the western slope of the ghauts, and are not urgently required in Travancore.

7. This scheme would, of course, require the concurrence of the Travancore Circar, but as they have more water than they want, and only the surplus water at a very great elevation would be diverted, I have no doubt they would willingly give their consent.

8. This alone would probably *double* the existing supply, and would make the valley of the *Numbyar* another *Tambrapoorney*. At any rate, the cultivation would be not inferior to that about Kalkad, and as far east as Nanguneri; for that country also depends on an anicut that diverts the water of a stream at a greater distance from Kalkad than Tirukurungudi is from what I imagine would be the site of the proposed anicut on the Mahendragiri.

9. Secondly, as to the area to be newly cultivated the information is, of course, uncertain, but I think I am within bounds when I say that the ayacut under present works is double the cultivated area.

10. I have called upon the Tahsildar for a statement showing the *exact* amount, and it shall be submitted as soon as received; but I think it better to send this letter without waiting for it, for fear the subject should be lost sight of.

11. Then there are some thousands of acres of land that might be irrigated below the last anicut at Kovankolum, which is not less than *twelve miles* from the sea. Floods of fertilizing water pour over this anicut every year, and there is some drainage water in the river to the east of it almost always.

12. I append a few remarks on a copy of a Memorandum prepared for His Excellency the Governor by the Range Officer, and, trusting the subject may receive some share of attention, I have, &c.

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ENCLOSURE No. 2.

*Copy of Range Officer's Memorandum on the irrigation works of his Range.*

NATTAR or NUMBYAR.—This river rises from Nambimalai, and is joined near the foot of the hills by another river called Vadanar, and falls into the sea, close by Totagudi. Its distance is twenty-nine miles. There are nine anicuts down the course of the river, namely:—

1. PANANJI URALI.—Situated quarter* of a mile above the junction of the said rivers. It is not of masonry work, but of large stones packed up occasionally by the people. The river on the upper side is not silted up, but the channel† going off the right bank is much filled up with silt, and rocks projecting greatly, for removal of these an estimate has been submitted.

* 1 mile or more. (Initialed) J. B. P.

† This consists of channels to supply Valliyur, Padaliyarkulum, &c., &c., south of Tirukurungudi. (Initialed) J. B. P.

2. SENGALAKURCHI.—This stands two furlongs below the said junction, and has only a mud dam raised up. The river is clear, but the channel taken on the left side is in *very* bad order, both of its bed and the banks.

3. TIRUKURUNGUDI—Which has an earthen embankment thrown up, stands two furlongs below the second. The river is free. The channel goes off the left bank; its bed is much silted up.

4. DALAVAYPURAM.—This is a nice anicut of masonry cut-stone work, and is in good‡ order. Here the river is silted up. The channel partly cleared off its deposits, and partly requiring particular attention, goes off the right bank. This anicut situates four miles below the third.

‡ New repairs of bad brick and inferior chunam. (Initialed) J. B. P.

5. RAJAKALMANGALUM.—This is a masonry work, stands two miles below the fourth. River silted, the channel taken on the left bank makes well, with the exception of some weeds in the bed; water can be met here all the year round.

6. TULUKAPATTI—Stands two-and-a-half miles below the fifth, and is of good masonry work in good order. Here the river is considerably silted up. The channel goes off the right bank; it was cleared off last year.

7. CHITTUR.—This is of masonry work, and stands three-quarters of a mile below the sixth: the river is little silted up; two channels, taken one on each side of the river, are in need of deepening, whereas the anicut makes good.

8. VIZIANARAYANAM.—Nice masonry work in good order. River silted; the channel runs off the left bank, and is greatly silted.

9. KOVANKOLUM.—This is last and newly built anicut as in 1866, and it was lately sanctioned. The river is silted up, and the channel is opened on the left bank, and it is in good order. It stands four miles below the eighth. Since the construction of this project, the cultivation up to Urumangalam limits are now improving.

It might be heightened; the channel might be widened, and a channel might be taken off the right bank. (There is an old channel to Kotaikarungalam.) (Initialed) J. B. P.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 10th March 1869.*

These two rivers are only down when it rains on the hills. They are sometimes quite dry, allowing the cultivations under them to fail, and which you can easily perceive by a reference to agricultural accounts of past years, granting remission more or less according to circumstances; and, moreover, you can see by a reference to the same, that there are lands lying waste on account of scanty supply of water.

If funds be available I can spend upon the present existing anicuts, channels, and tanks to bring them to thorough order, so as to store up sufficient supply of water when there are freshes, and thus prevent the failure of crops. If money be sufficient I can do to Nattar or Numbyar by way of increasing its supply to have some tributaries among the large ranges running westward from the rise into Travancore, and there wasted, turned out to fall in.

This is quite a new project.

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THE Acting Collector of Tinnevelly forwards with this a letter from the Sub-Collector, proposing a trial survey should be directed of the Numbyar, a stream situated in the most southerly talook of Tinnevelly.

2. He does not furnish the details of ayacut cultivated and waste under the existing works, but promises to submit them shortly.

3. Roughly he estimates that half the ayacut is waste, and puts the land that might be brought under cultivation at thousands of acres.

4. At present the water is utilised by means of nine anicuts, the lowest of which was constructed in 1866.

5. The others are all old works, and the Budget allotments of Tinnevelly are so small that rarely more than a few hundred Rupees are available for annual expenditure on the whole series.

6. The Board are of opinion that the scheme merits every encouragement, and would strongly urge a trial survey being ordered.

7. This would be a simple matter, as the existing works are sufficient to indicate the feasibility of the project as regards levels: the works alluded to as required to turn the water from the western slopes, are the only ones, the possibility of which has to be decided; and these, though necessary to bring new lands under cultivation, are not essential to the scheme for fully irrigating the present ayacut; for, as Mr. Pennington observes, floods of water pass over the lowest anicut every year.

8. The eighth anicut supplies the Vizianarayanam tank, a reservoir sadly neglected for many years, but one admirably situated for the storage of almost any amount of water.

9. During high floods this tank receives a supply from the hills as far north as the Tambrapoorney, some of the southern affluents of which are diverted by a hill anicut into the Nanguneri talook. For many years large annual remissions under it have been necessary.

10. The surplus water from the Vizianarayanam tank flows into the sea at points twenty miles apart.

11. If, therefore, this tank were placed in thorough repair, and a scheme matured for increasing its supply, there can be no doubt that the water stored could be profitably disposed of.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
*2nd March* 1869.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
*Acting Secretary to Government.*

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No. 252. Minute by the Honorable the President.
(Here enter 21st February 1869.)

No. 253. Minute by the Honorable H. D. PHILLIPS.
(Here enter 24th February 1869.)

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No. 254. From the Revd. Dr. CALDWELL, to His Excellency the Right Honorable Lord NAPIER, dated Edeyengoody, Palamcottah, 21st January 1869.

1. Under permission I beg to remind your Lordship of a representation which was made to you in this place in October, ultimo, by many of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, to the effect that it was desirable that the water of the *Numbyar* river, in the extreme south of Tinnevelly, most of which is at present allowed to run to waste, should be utilized by means of an anicut and a system of channels for the extension of wet cultivation in this arid, but improvable, part of the country; to which representation your Lordship was so good as to reply that steps should immediately be taken for a professional examination of the locality, and a consideration of the plans that were suggested.

2. I now beg to state that I have matured a plan to the best of my ability, by a personal examination of all the localities referred to, for carrying the project into effect, which plan I shall be happy to submit to any officer who may be authorized to enquire into the practicability and advantages of the project; and that I shall be much obliged to your Lordship to cause an order to be issued to the proper authorities to institute such enquiry.

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No. 255. ORDER THEREON, 10th March 1869, No. 762.

IRRIGATION, No. 14.

1. Under the circumstances set forth in the foregoing papers, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council resolves to direct that a trial survey of the Numbyar or Natar river be at once undertaken in connection with the other streams which flow from the Western Ghauts to the sea to the south of the Tambrapoorney. The desire of Government is that the development of irrigation from these streams should if possible be consolidated in a single loan work.

2. A special officer will be appointed for this duty. He will place himself under the orders of the Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division, and in correspondence with the Collector of the District, the Sub-Collector, and the Revd. Dr. Caldwell, whose local knowledge cannot fail to be of great use to him in the preliminary stage of his enquiry.

3. After the investigation of the southern rivers has been completed the Governor in Council will take into consideration the expediency of extending the survey to the Vypar river in the northern part of the district.

5

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 10th March 1869.*

4. The thanks of Government are due to Mr. Pennington and the Range Officer for their intelligent exertions in bringing forward a project which promises to be of material advantage to the country concerned.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
,, Collector of Tinnevelly.
To Revd. Dr. R. Caldwell.
To the Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

7 10

Edeyengoody Palamcottah
21st January 1869.

From
The Rev^d Dr. Caldwell

To
His Excellency
The Right Honourable Lord Napier.

My Lord,

Under permission I beg to remind your Lordship of a representation which was made to you in this place in October ult. by many of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, to the effect that it was desirable that the water of the Numbyaur river, in the extreme south of Tinnevelly, most of which is at present allowed to run to waste, should be utilized by means of an Anicut and a system of channels for the extension of wet cultivation in this arid, but improvable,

part of the Country; to which representation your Lordship was so good as to reply that steps should immediately be taken for a professional examination of the locality and a consideration of the plans that were suggested.

2. I now beg to state that I have matured a plan to the best of my ability, by a personal examination of all the localities referred to, for carrying the project into effect, which plan I shall be happy to submit to any officer who may be authorized to enquire into the practicability and advantages of the project, and that I shall be much obliged to your Lordship to cause an order to be issued to the proper

9 11

authorities to institute such
enquiry.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your Lordships most obedient servant.

(Signed) R. Caldwell.

Dr. Caldwell
& Ludivakier

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Extension of the
Kumbayam
Irrigation.

In the President's
Minute of Feb. 21.
1869

No. 13.

Sub Collector's Office
Shermadevi 14th January 1869.

From
J. B. Pennington Esqre.
Sub Collector
Tinnevelly

To
C. J. Longley Esqre
Ag. Collector
Tinnevelly

Sir,

During his late tour in the South of this District His Excellency the ×Governor expressed so much interest in the scheme for irrigating a part of that desert-like country that I am inclined to hope that a scheme for improving the water supply from the Nambiyar (or Tirukurungudi river) might possibly <u>now</u> receive the consideration it deserves.

Note.
× I even heard that he had ordered a preliminary survey but fear my information must have been incorrect for there seems to be no probability of anything of the kind being carried out now.

2. I have made it my business therefore during a pretty extensive tour in the South to inspect every irrigation work on the river and to make enquiries as to the supply of water available and the extent of land capable of irrigation. The result is that I am confident an immense amount of water is wasted that might easily be saved; and that too in a part of the country where

water is more than ordinarily precious, and the waste of it more than ordinarily culpable.

3. It is impossible to say with any certainty what amount of land could be brought under irrigation without a preliminary survey, and, perhaps, a scientific register to find out the amount of water available, but I have no hesitation in putting it down at thousands of acres.

4. If any thing is to be done, the River should be dealt with as a whole, and all the existing works should first be put in such perfect order as to ensure, so far as it is possible, the required supply to all the area now under cultivation or entered as irrigable in the Accounts.

5. Of course a preliminary survey is indispensable, but I agree with the Officer now in charge of the Range in thinking that all the existing anicuts should be heightened and the channels widened and deepened in the first place. The subsidiary reservoirs should also be put in thorough repair at the same time, and then it would be time to consider the schemes, first, for increasing the water supply, and secondly, for increasing the area to be irrigated.

6 As to the first I entirely approve of

the Range Officer's proposal to divert a portion of the water of the Streams which flow down the western slope of the Ghauts and are not urgently required in Travancore

7. This Scheme would of course require the concurrence of the Travancore Sirkar, but as they have more water than they want, and only the surplus water at a very great elevation would be diverted, I have no doubt they would willingly give their consent.

8. This alone would probably double the existing supply and would make the valley of the Nambiyar another Tambraparni. At any rate the cultivation would be not inferior to that about Kalkad and as far east as Nanguneri; for that country also depends on an Anicut that diverts the water of a stream at a greater distance from Kalkad than Tiruhurungudi is from what I imagine would be the site of the proposed anicut on the Mahendragiri.

This is utterly absurd

It is not a question of distance but of the area of catchment basin above the point of diversion

9. Secondly, as to the area to be newly cultivated the information is of course uncertain, but I think I am within bounds when I say that the Ayakat under present works is double the cultivated area.

10. I have called upon the Tahsildar for a statement showing the exact amount, and it shall be submitted as soon as received; but I think it better to send

this letter without waiting for it, for fear
the Subject should be lost sight of
11. Then there are some thousands of acres
of land that might be irrigated below the
last anicut at Kovankolam, which is
not less than 12 miles from the Sea.
Floods of fertilising water pour over this
anicut every year, and there is some
drainage water in the river to the East
of it almost always.
12. I append a few remarks on a
Copy of a Memo prepared for His Excellency
the Governor by the Range Officer, and
trusting the Subject may receive some
share of attention

I have &c.

(Signed) J. B. Pennington
Sub Collector

(True Copy)

C. T. Longley
Ag. Collector

Compd. AB

P.W 851/69
Pros: 10th March /69 S. L. 251.

Enclosure in a letter from the Ag. Collector Tinnevelly dated 25th January 1869 No 42

C No 512/69

No 1

Iul G No 301/69

Copy of Sub collector letter referred to in the above letter

19-2-69

R.D. 17

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Under date the

Read the following
Pro: of the Bd. of Rev.
A. C. 11th Feby. /69 No. 889.

Under the circumstances set forth in the foregoing papers the Rt. Honble. the Govr. in Council resolves to direct that instructions be issued in the P. W. D. for the trial survey of the Nambiyar river which is recommended by the Board, on the understanding that the District Engineer concurs in the views expressed by the Sub. Colr. and the Range Officer.

The Thanks of Govt. are due to Mr. Pennington and the Range Officer for bringing forward this promising project. [illegible]

WBM

I have put up with this a minute by H. E. the Govr. on the same subject which has come since this [illegible] reached me. The best plan will be to transfer these pros: of the Board together with Lord Napier's

Minute to the D. of P.W.
[illegible] the necessary
orders [illegible] be issued.

A. J.

Under the circumstances
set forth in the papers
before the Lt Govr the
Govr in Council resolves
to direct that instructions
be issued to the P.W.D.
for the third survey of
the [illegible] river which
is recommended by the
Board, on the understanding
that the District Engineer
concurs in the views expressed
by the [illegible]
Surge [illegible].
The [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

G.P.

Scheme for improvement of Water supply in Tinnevelly Dist.

# Copy of Range Officer's Memo on the irrigation works of his Range

I Nattar or Nambiyar.

This river rises from Nambimalai and is joined near the foot of the Hills by another river called Vadanar and falls into the sea, close by Totagudi. Its distance is 29 miles. There are 9 Anicuts down the course of the river, namely

1 Panangi Urali. Situated ¾ of a mile above the junction of the said rivers. It is not of Masonry work but of large stones packed up occasionaly by the people. The river on the upper side is not silted up, but the Channel going off the right bank is much filled up with silt and rocks projecting greatly; for removal of these, an Estimate has been submitted.

2. Sengalakurichi. This stands 2 furlongs below the said junction and has only a mud dam raised up. The river is clear, but the Channel taken on the left side is in very bad

* 1 mile or more (initialed) J. B. P.

† This Consists of Channels to supply Valliyur, Padalaiyarkulam &c. &c. South of Tirukurungudi. (initialed) J. B. P.

order both of its bed and the banks.

3. Tirukurungudi. which has an earthern embankment thrown up, stands 2 furlongs below the 2^d The river is free. The Channel goes off the left bank. its bed is much silted up.

4. Dalavaypuram. This is a nice anicut of masonry cut stone work and is in good+ order. Here the river is silted up. The Channel partly cleared off its deposits and partly requiring particular attention goes off the right bank. This anicut situates 4 miles below the 3^d.

+ new repairs of bad brick and inferior Chunam (initialed) J. B. P.

5. Rajakalmangalam. This is a masonry work stands 2 miles below the 4^th. River silted the Channel taken on the left bank makes well with the exception of some weeds in the bed; water can be met here all the year round.

6. Tulukapatti. Stands 2½ miles below the 5^th and is of good masonry work in good order. Here the river is considerably silted up. The Channel goes off the right

23

bank it was cleared off last year.

7. Chittur. This is of mason-ry work and stands 3/4 of a mile below the 6th the river is little silted up; 2 Channels taken one on each side of the river are in need of deepening whereas the anicut makes good.

8. Vizianarayapuram. Nice masonry work in good order River silted. the Channel runs off the left bank and is greatly silted.

9. Kovakulam. This is last and newly built anicut as in 1866, and it was lately sanctioned. The river is silted up and the Channel is opened on the left bank and it is in good order. It stands 4. miles below the 8th. Since the construction of this project the cultivation up to Aruman-golam limits are now improving

These two rivers are only down when it rains on the Hills. They are some times quite dry allow-ing the cultivations under them to fail, and which you can easily perceive by a reference to

It might be heightened, the Channel might be widened and a Channel might be taken off the right bank (There is an old Channel to Kotankarungulam).
(initialed) J. B. P.

agricultural accounts of past years, granting remission more or less according to circumstances, and moreover you can see by a reference to the same that there are lands lying waste on account of scanty supply of water.

If funds be available I can spend upon the present existing anicuts, channels and tanks to bring them to thorough order so as to store up sufficient supply of water when there are freshes and thus prevent the failure of crops. If money be sufficient I can do to Natar or Nambiyar by way of increasing it's supply to have some tributaries among the large ranges running westward from the rise into Travancore and there wasted, turned out to fall in.

This is quite a new project.

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. B. Pennington
Sub Collector

(True Copy)

C. J. Longley
Ag. Collector

P No 851/69

Pros. 10th Mar/69 No. 251.

Enclosure in a letter from the Ag Collector Tinnevelly dated 25th January 1869 No. 42

No 2

Indy Re No 301/69.

Copy of Range Officer's memo referred to in the above letter

19-2-69

P.W. 1869 Dept.
Pro: of Govt. for March
No. 852

From
The Rev: Dr. Caldwell
Palamcottah

Dd. 21st Jan:
Rd. 3d March } 1869

Regarding
the utilization, for
irrigation purposes,
of the waters of the
small streams south
of the Tambrapoorny
river in the Tin-
-nevelly Dist.-

No. 254

No. 762 - 10: March/69

Minute by His Excellency the President. —

The sanction accorded by the Supreme Govt. to the construction of the Streevagunta Anicut with its dependent Tanks and Channels, the project for a development of irrigation on the middle course of the River Tambra-poorney, the scheme for the formation of storage basins on its headwaters and the subordination of the whole system of water distribution, as a separate charge to a special Range officer, give us a sufficient guarantee that the interests of the cultivator and the revenue in that quarter will be amply provided for.

There are, however, other streams to the South of the Tambrapoorney which offer many features of similitude with that river though

on a much smaller scale. Though scarcely exceeding the dimensions of brooks they are connected with the Western Ghauts, they receive a supply from the South west monsoon their sources are shaded by forests, they have a perennial or almost perennial flow. An inspection of the map shows ~~three~~ seven such streams all of which find their way to the Sea the northern or larger Nattar (also called Rumlyar), the Southern Nattar, the Trickaumgoody, and still further South the ~~Rumlyar or~~ Unnumaur. The three first are apparently interlaced with each other by an intricate System of artificial channels and reservoirs. The last appears to stand alone. All have at various times attracted

the attention of our Engineers and owe their presentability substantially to the labours of Colonel Worsley to whom the minor irrigation works of Tanjore are so much indebted. On my recent visit to the South the state of these irrigation works was brought to my notice by several of the Missionaries and especially by the Revd. Dr. Caldwell. I was also addressed upon the subject by ~~[illegible]~~ deputations of the Country people. I then engaged that the State of these rivers should be investigated & on my return I spoke to Colonel Orr on the subject who promised to depute an officer on this duty as soon as one could be made available.

I have now the honor to communicate a letter which I have received from the Revd. Dr. Caldwell in which he presses for the prosecution of the enquiry and states that he has matured a plan for the utilization of the Tamraparni river which he is ready to submit to the judgment of a professional Engineer. The Secretary for the Dept. of Public works on the other hand is prepared to place an officer on the work.

II. The ~~Tambrapar~~ Anonymous is not in immediate connection with the streams to the north, which form a sort of network of irrigation channels, but it ~~rises and~~ flows rises to rise and flows under the same physical circumstances

33 5

and is ~~available~~ probably available for the same purposes among the same people. All these water courses are so near each other, so similar, and, in great part, so mutually dependent, that I apprehend they may be properly formed into a single irrigational grant and become the object of a single consolidated loan if the projected investigation shows the scheme to be of a profitable character.

III. The proposal which I submit is accordingly this, that the Government should sanction the nomination of a special officer, under the direction of the Superintending Engineer of the Division, to investigate the rivers flowing

from the ghauts to the Gulf of Manaar to the South of the Tambrapoorney & between that river and the Travancore frontier, with the view of ascertaining whether the irrigation from those streams can be so improved and extended as to justify the concession of a loan by the Government of India.

In undertaking this enquiry the officer would be instructed to confer with Dr. Caldwell whose local information and influence would be highly useful to the undertaking. — The enquiry might commence with the Kumbyar. —

IV. The capabilities of the Southern streams in Tinnevelly having been ascertained it would be desirable in my opinion ~~to~~ that the same officer should make a survey of the Vyparu, a river of greater volume in floods but liable to be ~~almost entirely~~ dried up in the hot season. This river is already available to a considerable extent for irrigation but if local impressions are well-founded it is still susceptible of improvement, a great amount of surplus floodwater running yearly to the sea. —

Napier

Madras. Feb. 21./69

Dd.

Two days ago a packet of papers reached me, concerning the utilization of the waters of the Nambyar. It proceeds from the Sub Collector of Tinnevelly, Mr. Pennington, and is accompanied by an opinion from a subordinate officer in the D.P.W. It may be well, I think, to bring under consideration the Sub Collr's official commn. together with that wh. His Lordship has received from the Revd. Mr Caldwell —

W.D.H.

24.2.69

Summit by W. P. L.

The President

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Proposes

Inspection of Small

rivers to the

South of the

Taschapoorne

P. S.

After placing the preceding remarks in circulation I was informed by Mr Phillips that a communication had been received from the Board of Revenue enclosing a letter from Mr Pennington Sub Collector of Tinnevelly having reference to the improvement of irrigation on the Nattar or Kumbyur River. That letter, which reflects great credit on Mr Pennington, is now before me together with a Memorandum from the Range officer and the remarks of the Board of Revenue. These papers confirm the impressions which I have submitted to my colleagues and justify, in my opinion, immediate action being taken in the matter. I would therefore submit that the papers be transferred to the

Dept. of Public works ~~with~~ in which an order ~~in~~ might be framed in the following terms.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
Under date the
Read the following Pro. of the Board of Revenue. Feb. 11th /64. 889.
and a Minute by H.E. the President under date of Feb. 21st. enclosing a letter from The Revd. Dr. Caldwell.

Under the circumstances set forth in the foregoing papers the Rt. Hon. the Governor in Council resolves to direct that Instructions be issued in the Dept. of Public Works for a trial survey of the Numbyar or Hatar River to determine the construction in connection with the other streams which flow

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from the western ghauts to the sea to the South of the Tambapoorney.

The desire of Govt. is that the development of irrigation from these streams should if possible be consolidated in a single loan work.

A special officer will be appointed for this duty. He will place himself under the orders of the Superintending Engineer 8th Division and in correspondence with the Collector of the District, the Sub Collector, and the Revd. Dr. Caldwell, whose local knowledge cannot fail to be of great use to him in the preliminary

stage of his enquiry.

After the investigation of the southern Rivers has been completed, the Governor in Council will take into consideration the expediency of extending the survey to the Vyparr River in the northern part of the District.

The thanks of Govt. are due to Mr Pennington and the Range officer for their intelligent exertions in bringing forward a project which promises to be of material advantage to the country concerned."

I have only to add [illegible]

that I fear Mr Pennington is mistaken in promising himself so great accession of water supply by diverting streams that run eastwards to Travancore. There is a project under consideration there for storing water from those sources & greatly increasing the irrigated area. [illegible] Feb. 27. 1869.

I have no objection to the [?] substitution of this draft for the one on Mr Pennington's proposal. That, and the plan to which Mr Caldwell's comm. has reference can be considered together. [illegible]

28.2.69

P. W. 1869 Dept

No. 853

Minutes by the
Right Hon: the President
and
the Hon: H D Phillips

Dated 21 & 24 Feb/69
Rd 3d March —

No. 782 - 10th March /69

Regarding the
utilization of the water
of the Numbyaur river
in the Tinnevelly Dist
for irrigation purposes

2

No. 252 & 253

Public Works Dept. =

No 762

# Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 10th March 1869.

Read the following.

Procgs. of the Board of Reve. Here enter No 8897 11th Feby/69.

Minutes by the Right Honble the President and the Honble H. D. Phillips ( Here enter of 21. & 24 Feby 69)

From the Revd. D. Caldwell Palamcottah ( Here enter of 21st January 69)

Under the circumstances set forth in the foregoing papers the Right Honorable the Governor in Council resolves to direct that a trial survey of the Nambyar or Natar River be at once undertaken in connection with the other streams which flow from the Western Ghauts to the Sea to the South of the Tambraporney - The

The desire of Government is that the development of irrigation from these streams should if possible be consolidated in a single loan work.

A special Officer will be appointed for this duty. He will place himself under the orders of the Supg Engr. of the 8th Divn., and in correspondence with the Collector of the District, the Sub Collector, and the Revd. Dr. Caldwell whose local knowledge cannot fail to be of great use to him

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in the preliminary stage of his enquiry.

After the investigation of the Southern Rivers has been completed the Governor in Council will take into consideration the expediency of extending the survey to the Vyparr River in the Northern part of the District.

The thanks of Government are due to Mr. Pennington and the Range Officer for their intelligent exertions in bringing forward a project which promises to be of material advantage to the Country concerned.

To
The Chief Engr. for Irrigation ✓
" S. Engr. 8th Dn. ✓
" Collector Tinnevelly ✓
" Revd. Dr. R. Caldwell ✓
" Revenue Depart ✓

Sepr. 11/69

[signature]

...in the preliminary
...stage of this enquiry -

After the knowledge
...of the Southern ...
...has been completed the
Government in Council
...will take into considera-
...tion the expediency
...of extending the survey
...to the Tapti River
...in the Northern part
...of the District -

The thanks of Go-
vernment are due to
Mr. Cunningham and
... Rowe Officer for
... intelligent exertions
... in bringing forward a
report which promises
... to be of material advantage
... the Country concerned -

[illegible]

To
The Chief Engr. for irrigation
A. [illegible]
Collector [illegible]
[illegible]

Cons 851, 852 & 853

# Govt. of {1869} Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Dated

Recd. Encl. 2

G. O. 10 March 1869, No. 762

Nos. 251 @ 255

Irrigation purposes. Passing orders on papers relative to the utilization for irrigation purposes, of the waters of the Numbyar and other streams which flow from the Western Ghauts to the sea to the South of the Tambraparney, Tinnevelly &c.-